

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/037,055

Examiner

Ronald Laneau

Applicant(s)

BROCK, JEFFREY MICHAEL

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/29/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-42.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 May 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Peter Zura on 02/17/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 41, starting with line 7, **delete the followings:**

"generating a financing package for each individual product in the dealer's inventory;
displaying the financing packages on a dealer terminal; and
sorting the financing packages"

Insert the followings:

-- calculating a credit score for the customer based at least in part on the information gathered from the customer;

determining an advance amount to be paid to the dealer from the financing source for each individual product in the dealer inventory in the event that that particular product is sold to the customer;

calculating a front-end profit to be realized by the dealer for each individual product in the dealer inventory based on the dealer cost associated with each individual product, the advance amount determined for each individual product, and the down payment amount; and

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generating a financing package to the dealer for each individual product in the dealer's inventory, wherein the financial package is sorted --

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the references, either singularly or in combination, teaches or even suggests:

A method and a system for generating guaranteed financing packages for a customer purchase of a product from a dealer's inventory of a plurality of products comprising:

As per claims 1-11, 33 and 34, calculating a front-end profit to be realized by the dealer for each individual product in the dealer inventory based on the dealer cost associated with each individual product, the advance amount determined for each individual product, and the down payment amount.

As per claims 12-20, 35 and 36, a server configured to receive credit information through the network, and to access the financing package generating unit, which retrieves a credit report related to the customer, and calculates a credit score for the customer based on the credit report and the credit information, the financing package generating unit further generating financing packages for each of the individually priced items in the database, the financing packages including a front-end profit calculated based on the credit score payment of an advance amount to the dealer in furtherance of the sale, and dealer costs, the server beings further configured to transmit the financing packages to the user terminal for presentation to the dealer for immediate offer for sale to the customer.

As per claims 21-26, 32, 37 and 38, the server generating a financing package for each product in the dealer's inventory and transmit financing terms for each financing package to the

user terminal via the network for presentation to the user for immediate purchase wherein the server is further configured such that the financing terms of each financing package include an advance amount to be paid to the dealer by said financing party if the customer purchases the product associated with the financing package.

As per claims 27-31, 39 and 40, generating a financing package for each product in the merchant's inventory of products, the financing packages being based on each individual product, the down payment amount, the advance amount, and the credit risk associated with the customer.

As per claims 41 and 42, generating a financing package to the dealer for each individual product in the dealer's inventory, wherein the financial package is sorted according to a selectable criteria, whereby the dealer may select one or more of the financing packages to present to the customer for immediate purchase.

The closest prior art, Sheets (US 2001/0049653 A1), discloses a system for matching customers with products in inventory that will be desirable and affordable to the customers, either singularly or in combination, fails to anticipate or render obvious the above limitations.

The closest prior art, (JP02003141382A) discloses a payment system for performing merchandise ordering, delivery, payment and inventory management under uniform management, either singularly or in combination, fails to anticipate or render obvious the above limitations.

The closest prior art, NPL: Management Science, Inventory Management with Asset-Based Financing. Discloses traditional models in production and inventory control ignoring the

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financial states of an organization, either singularly or in combination, fails to anticipate or render obvious the above limitations.

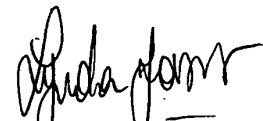
3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronald Laneau whose telephone number is (703) 305-3973. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 8:30am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski can be reached on (703) 308-5183. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Ronald Laneau
Examiner
Art Unit 3627

 2/28/05
Primary Examiner